

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 /056 W

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R 141131Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4817

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0804

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, EINV

SUBJECT: GENERAL TIRE COMPANY

REF: STATE 168680

1. DESPITE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY LOCAL GENERAL TIRE MANAGER, EMBASSY DOES NOT FEEL CIRCUMSTANCES IN MOZAMBIQUE PRECLUDE SENDING IN TECHNICIANS.

2. IN VIEW PROBABILITY THAT NORMAL GPRM RED TAPE MAY FRUSTRATE TECHNICIANS LACKING OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT GENERAL TIRE THROUGH ITS REPRESENTATIVES HERE APPROACH GPRM MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TO FACILITATE THEIR ENTRY AND TO HELP RESOLVE ANY PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE DURING STAY OF TECHNICIANS. AMONG OTHER THINGS, MINISTRY SHOULD ARRANGE FOR RE-ENTRY VISAS TO PERMIT OCCASION R&R VISITS TO SWAZI-LAND AND SOUTH AFRICA.

3. FOR BENEFIT OF TECHNICIANS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT GENERAL TIRE BRIEF THEM THOROUGHLY ON WHAT TO EXPECT: E.G. LACK OF MEDICAL CARE, SHORTAGE OF ENTERTAINMENT, AND PROBABLY LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT NO ONE WITH ANY CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS BE SENT. IN ORDER FACILITATE ENTRY IN CASE OF MEDICAL EVACULATION, ALL TECHNICIANS SHOULD HAVE VALID SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS.

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4. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

OF GENERAL TIRE FACTOR, LARGEST US INVESTMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE, IS IMPORTANT IN ESTABLISHING GPRM'S CONFIDENCE IN THE RELIABILITY OF OTHER AMERICAN COMPANIES THAT MIGHT WANT TO INVEST OR DO BUSINESS HERE IN THE FUTURE. FIFTEEN PROPERLY BRIEFED AND WELL CHOSEN MEN SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTIES LIVING IN MAPUTO FOR SIX MONTHS.

5. IF DESIRED, EMBASSY WILL ASSIST IN OBTAINING VISAS AND PROVIDE BRIEFING UPON ARRIVAL.

6. FYI-LOCAL PRESS JULY 14 CARRIED LONG AND FAVORABLE ARTICLE WITH PHOTOS OF THE PLANT, INCLUDING INTERVIEW WITH LOCAL MANAGER. ARTICLE MENTIONED THAT TECHNICIANS WERE EXPECTED ARRIVE SHORTLY. END FYI.
DE PREE

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